

BRITAIN KILLED NEUTRAL UNION IS ACCUSATION

Chilean Counselor's Report to Pan-American Congress Opens Secret History.

A powerful league of neutral nations, composed of twenty-one American republics, would now be in existence had it not been for the attitude of former Secretary of State Bryan.

This revelation of the secret history of international conferences of this Administration is made public in an advance copy of a treatise on international law, prepared by Dr. Alejandro Alvarez for the Pan-American Scientific Congress, according to a Washington article of the International News Service.

Suggested Union.

Dr. Alvarez is considered the most brilliant authority on international law in Latin-America. He is former counselor of the ministry of foreign affairs in Chile, and has been in the Chilean legation in Europe, and delegate from Chile, Costa Rica, and Ecuador to the present congress on international law.

His treatise is published in French, and is called "La Grande Guerre Europeenne et la Neutralite du Chili". In discussing the neutral conference of the commission on the neutrality of the governing board of the Pan-American Union in December, 1914, and January, 1915, he says:

"In order to gain protection against the annoyance of the abuse of neutral rights, the minister from Ecuador presented, in the name of his government, the following motion: 'That a league of American diplomats be convoked with the object that they obtain a declaration from the belligerents to consider the sea bordering upon the coastline of the Americas as a neutral zone, and that the waters be wholly protected from all operations of war which might damage neutral commerce.'

"And that, in view of the peril that has resulted from violation of the neutrality of each one of the nations of America concerned all the others."

Reason for Opposition.

"But the president of the governing board of the Pan-American Union, Mr. Bryan, observed that it was very difficult to put into immediate practice any idea of a system which might, after substantially the international law in force, for such measures would result indirectly in favoring one of the belligerents; that it was not easy to adopt such a procedure without appearing to show partiality."

"The Secretary of the United States added that it was of great importance to study, for the present, the modifications which, based upon experience, could be introduced after the war, into international law."

"Though Dr. Alvarez does not make any further comment on the incident, the correspondent asserts, other diplomats at the conference indicated that Mr. Bryan smashed the entire proposal, though every other member of the conference representing every American republic, save one, was in favor of such a neutrality league."

Turned Down Plan.

"They indeed, Mr. Bryan's statement—that such measures would result indirectly in favoring one of the belligerents—therefore that he opposed the formation of a neutral league because it might operate in favor of German commerce in America."

Dr. Alvarez continues: "After the German government had declared the blockade of France and Great Britain by the means of the submarine, and had given the blockade so absolute a character that all the merchant marine, even that of the neutrals, ran huge risks in the said zone, the government of Chile judged it necessary to revive the idea of a union of all the neutral nations not only of America, but of Europe, for safeguarding their rights."

"It suggested to its ambassador in Washington the careful study should be given to the form in which the states of America might proclaim themselves in accord on questions of neutrality."

Again, Dr. Alvarez indicates, the Administration flatly turned down the proposition of a league of neutrals. Both before the Pan-American Congress and the American Institute of International Law, in session here this week, Dr. Alvarez argued in close union of neutrals. He desires to have such a league facilitate the consideration and proposal of peace terms to belligerent nations."

Has Specific Plan.

Among South American delegates there is a general feeling that if the United States Government had insisted on neutral rights, and had joined the others in a neutral league a year ago, when first proposed to Mr. Bryan, the war might now be over."

They are of the opinion that the abuse of international law would not have been contemplated. The belligerent nations, from whose selfishness would have reconsidered their declarations with a view to the commercial situation after the war."

Dr. Alvarez comes to the Pan-American Congress with a specific plan for a union of neutrals. He will propose that as soon as a rupture of negotiation between nations is declared, all the neutrals shall send representatives to an assembly to review the actions of those armies, particularly in reference to prisoners' camps, the Red Cross Society, and non-combatants."

Their report shall be made to the commission of neutrals, which shall then make demands, if necessary, on the belligerent who has offended international law.

Rider's Arm Broken.

John A. Halloran, thirty-five, 716 Kennedy street, was thrown from a horse in the Agricultural grounds late yesterday. His left arm was fractured.

PHOTOPLAYS AND PHOTOPLAYERS

By GARDNER MACK.

Jimmy Cruze's 'Merry Christmas' Cost Him The Sum of Thirty Dollars.

Motion pictures being one of the developments of modern science, it is but natural that the people who are connected with the motion picture industry should make use of all the most modern scientific appliances and modern conveniences when it is to their pleasure or profit to do so.

However, Marguerite Snow received a bit of a Christmas present Saturday in New York that is still causing her to have a dizzy feeling. Washington has about as close an interest in Miss Snow's career as in that of any other motion picture star. The reason that she went from the post of leading woman of a stock company at the Belasco Theater, in this city, to become a motion picture star—and she was a very popular leading woman here, too.

Likewise, Washington takes something of an interest in James Cruze, another motion picture star, principally because he is the husband of Miss Snow, but also because he has many other likeable qualities. Cruze's present assignment to the Lasky studio forces in Los Angeles, and Miss Snow with the Metro company, New York acting partners, two facts must be kept in mind to get the point of the story.

Saturday morning Miss Snow was away from her home in the city, and she was called to the telephone. She was told she was wanted by long distance telephone. When she asked who wanted her the operator told her her husband wished to speak to her. Miss Snow laughed and thought someone was playing a joke on her. In a minute the unmistakable tones of Jimmy Cruze's voice came over the wire. Miss Snow was startled. She asked him where he was talking from. He told her from the studio in Los Angeles. And he said he wanted to wish her and the baby the merriest Christmas of their lives and exchange a few words with her even if they were three thousand miles apart. That was all the conversation that was exchanged between them, but Miss Snow ascertained from the telephone company that her message was actually from Los Angeles and that her husband had just \$30.

Bessie Barriscale's holiday has been largely taken up in entertaining her friends. She has been open house, and Miss Bessie says she never had so many old-time professional callers before in her life. In the course of her speaking stage career she made numerous friends, and there are so many of them in pictures now. Howard Hickman says their home is more like a green room than anything else. They both like it, however.

Edna Mason has worked under more directors than any other leading lady. She was recently playing with Henry Otto's direction, but he has taken a holiday. Her services are always in demand, and whenever she is available there are half a dozen of the other directors bidding for her. Her dressing room is like a dressmaker's headquarters, with the dresses of her sister and one or two other girls she is dressing a number of dolls for her little artist friends for Xmas.

Grace Curard has had to put on an extra pair to help her get caught up with her correspondence and send off photographs. She has been behind ever since she dared to take a holiday. Miss Curard really has an enormous amount to cope with, and it is quite a problem at times. Moreover, it entails much expense as well as work, for she never neglects anyone who writes to her. G. M.

This Week's Photoplays

EMPRESS.

The Empress, at 416 Ninth street, became the local headquarters, for the first showing of pictures of the Fox Film Company, yesterday, with the initial presentation in this city of the newest photoplay, starring Theda Bara, "Destruction." The Fox company has under contract such stars as William Farnum, Dorothy Bernard, Robert Mantell, Genevieve Hamper, Claire Whitney, Jean Sothorn, Stuart Holmes, and others and a new picture will be shown each week.

"Destruction" is a strong drama of the type in which Theda Bara has been previously presented, giving her opportunity for the display of her ability along her special lines. It deals with the labor problems largely, and has especially to do with the conditions in Colorado and New Jersey.

The cast supporting the star includes Gaston Bell, James Furey, Carlton Macey, Esther Hoier, Warner Colburn, Herbert Frank, and others. "Destruction" is to be repeated today and a program of special comedy and drama during the remainder of the week.

CRANDALL'S.

"The Labyrinth," a new idea in the dressing up of the favorite theme of dramatics and story writers involving the heroine in the life of the stage and of settlements in the slums, was presented at Crandall's today, with Gail Kane as the star of the Equitable company. Miss Kane is given a big opportunity, and with an excellent supporting cast, makes the most of it. "The Labyrinth" will be repeated tomorrow.

Wednesday Vivian Martin will be seen in her newest photoplay, "Over Night," which has been done over from the stage play of the same name. This is a sprightly comedy with a more or less serious undercurrent. The World Film Corporation is sponsor for "Over Night."

The World Film Corporation is also responsible for the production of another drama well known to the stage, "The Track," which, as a photoplay, serves as the latest vehicle for the presentation of June Brady, and will be shown at Crandall's Thursday and Friday. This drama attracted some attention when first presented on the stage because of its strong emotional character. Miss Brady has been given an excellent company.

A new Vitaphone feature, "The Making Over of Geoffrey Manning," will be the principal photoplay of Saturday's program, with Harry Morey in the principal role.

LEADER.

A story that has to do with canal boats and a circus forms the basis for "Still Waters," in which Marguerite Clark is presented at the Leader Theater today as a part of the Paramount program. Miss Clark

THE BEST Photoplay Department in WASHINGTON



ROBERT WARWICK. The stage star to be seen in a World Film Corporation photoplay at Crandall's Apollo tomorrow.

has the part of the granddaughter of a canal boat captain. Her mother ran away to marry a circus actor and the child was lost during the moving of the circus from town to town and came in curious fashion to the old canal boatman. "Still Waters" will be seen again tomorrow.

Charles Cherry is to be the star Wednesday and Thursday in the photoplay adaptation of "The Mummy and the Humming Bird," which was produced on the stage by Charles Frohman on the stage. Mr. Cherry is one of the best known of the leading men of the stage, and this is the first photoplay in which he has been seen.

Friday and Saturday Laura Hope Crews is to be seen in the film version of "The Fighting Hero," a strong drama produced on the stage by David Belasco. The play deals with the experiences of a wife married to a man who is sent to prison for embezzlement and who has represented to his wife that he is the victim of circumstances. She discovers his real nature, however, just before he escapes, and is killed while his guards are attempting his recapture.

CRANDALL'S APOLLO.

The Jesse L. Lasky feature photoplay, "Out of the Darkness," starring Charlotte Walker, is the first of the Christmas week program to be shown today at Crandall's Apollo Theater, 524 H street, north-west. Mrs. Walker is a special opportunity, and she is supported by an excellent cast. Tomorrow Robert Warwick will be the star of the program in the World Film Corporation's production, "The Sins of Society."

Francis X. Bushman will be the headliner Wednesday in the first Metro feature in which he appeared with Beverly Bayne, "Pennington's Choice." The play deals with New York society and the Canadian northwest. Thursday John Barrymore will be presented in a film adaptation of "The Incurable Du-Kane." Friday will be a presentation of Irene Fenwick in "The Green Cloak" with a special show beginning at 10:30 p. m. for the benefit of those who wish to watch the old year out at a motion picture theater. New Year's Day Marguerite Clark will be seen in "Helene of the North."

Mrs. E. S. Knight Heads Sunshine Society

The Sunshine and Community Society has elected the following officers: President, Mrs. E. S. Knight; first vice president, Mrs. G. L. Peckham; second vice president, Mrs. P. R. McKahan; third vice president, Mrs. Sanford Taylor; fourth vice president, Mrs. J. Edson Briggs; corresponding secretary, Mrs. O. R. Evans; recording secretary, Mrs. E. Richard Gasch; treasurer, Mrs. Charles P. Grandfield. Managers of the various branches are: Friendship branch, Mrs. Charles P. Grandfield; penial servitude branch, Mrs. A. Zinkhan; garment branch, Mrs. Charles Perkins; helping hands branch, Mrs. Sanford Taylor; Florence Crittenton branch, Mrs. W. H. Howard.

COP'S SLAYERS SAFE; QUIET IN MUSKOGEE

MUSKOGEE, Okla., Dec. 27.—Homer Matthews and Will Williams, the negroes whom Sheriff Barger rescued from a mob here last night, were brought today to be safe in the county jail at Tulsa, or some other nearby city. The mob spirit apparently had died down and little effort was made to trace the slayer and his prisoner. The two negroes were charged with the murder of Patrolman Sam Neal when the policeman caught one of them coming out of a hardware store about midnight Saturday, carrying a sack. He lived long enough to tell other officers who his assailants were, also describing another negro who was on guard.

Montague Flagg, Artist, Victim of Pneumonia

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Montague Flagg, portrait painter, is dead of pneumonia in a hospital here. He was born in London, and was in his seventieth year. His father was the late Rev. Dr. Jared B. Flagg. Mr. Flagg studied art under Jacques-Louis David in Paris, and later settled in New York. His "Portrait of Mr. Wise" was exhibited at the National Academy of Design in December, 1904, and won the Thomas R. Proctor bonus for the best portrait in the exhibition.

DEPARTMENT PLANS FOR NEW SUBMARINES

Plan Dreadnaughts More Adequately Defended Against Undersea and Air Attacks.

That the United States navy is working on a design of a dreadnaught that will be more adequately defended against submarine and air attack, and that the navy hereafter will have submarines built on its own plans, instead of accepting plans of submarine builders, are striking facts brought out in the annual report of Rear Admiral D. W. Taylor, chief of the Bureau of Construction and Repair.

Admiral Taylor does not go into details in outlining the battleship changes, holding that "details of changes of construction are regarded as confidential," but he declares that specifications for the ships next to be purchased have been materially improved, indicating that the changes designed to make the battleship proof against submarines will be given a trial on the next ships built. With reference to the submarine plans it was explained in the report that heretofore the navy merely has asked for bids for U-boats, leaving it to the bidders to furnish the plans. That plan will be abandoned and instead the bureau will submit plans prepared by its own naval constructors. The submarine building companies will be permitted to submit bids based on their own patents and designs, however, and this will give the Navy Department the privilege of choosing between its own and private company submarine designs.

Bureau experts designed the Schley, the big fleet submarine now under construction. The department now is preparing plans in two larger boats. "It is true that the designing and building of submarines is a specialty that requires experience," Admiral Taylor's report says, "but we now have in the navy adequate experience in this connection. The report outlines contemplated improvements at the model basin at Washington navy yard, where hull designs are tested. A device to simulate storm conditions and wave motions is now being installed in the tank as a means of more closely approximating actual conditions at sea."

TODAY'S BEST FILMS

By GARDNER MACK.

Gail Kane in "The Labyrinth," Crandall's, Ninth and E streets. Charlotte Walker in "Out of the Darkness," Crandall's Apollo, 524 H street. Theda Bara in "Destruction," Fox, 416 Ninth street. Marguerite Clark in "Still Waters," Empress, Twelfth and E streets. Bessie Barriscale in "The Clasp," and Wesley and Fields in "The Fighting Hero," Crandall's Apollo, 524 H street. Emily Stevens in "The House of Tears," The Strand, Ninth and D streets. Julia Swayne Gordon and Leo Delaney in "Wasted Lives," Columbia, Twelfth and E streets. Virginia Surratt in "The Immigrant," Glasko, Loew's Columbia, Twelfth and E streets. "Just Jim," the Hippodrome, Ninth street and New York avenue.

\$100,000 Bridgeport Fire.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Dec. 27.—Fire of unknown origin did \$100,000 damage to the Constock-Willet Company, wholesale grocer. Two firemen were overcome by the smoke and taken to a hospital.

WAR AVIATORS HERE CANNOT BE INTERNED

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Lawyers who have specialized in international law do not take seriously the suggestion that an article of the Hague Treaty of 1907 requires the United States Government to intern until the end of the war Lieut. William Thaw and Sergts. Elliot C. Cowdin and Norman Lince, Americans serving as flight instructor pilots, who are in this country on an eight-day visit.

"The duty of neutral nations is to disarm and intern belligerent forces who enter neutral territory," said Maurice Leon. "The three men mentioned have come here unarmed—without arms—not having been forced by the exigencies of war or on a military expedition, in the capacity of civilian Americans to spend Christmas with their families. If they are subject to internment so also should be the 350,000 German reservists here, not to mention German officers who are not here to spend Christmas with their families. These aviators are not troops in any sense of the word." William Blumer said: "My impression is that the article referred to troops forced in a body into a neutral country by the opposing army, as in the case of parts of the Belgian army in Holland. I think there are a number of British officers here, but no objection has been made to their presence. There would probably be a considerable number of German soldiers here also if it were possible for them to reach here."

The provision of the treaty which it is insisted that the three aviators be interned here until after the war reads as follows: "A neutral power which receives on its territory troops belonging to belligerent armies shall intern them, as far as possible, at a distance from the theater of war."

CLINICS WILL SHOW BABY WELFARE WORK

Educational demonstrations and clinics to acquaint women visitors to the Pan-American Scientific Congress with American methods in child welfare work have been arranged by the Children's Bureau of the Labor Department. The programs were arranged at the suggestion of the State Department and will have the cooperation of the Instructive Visiting Nurse Society and the Washington Diet Kitchen.

The conferences on infant welfare will be at the headquarters of the Washington Diet Kitchen, at Third and Pennsylvania avenue northwest, directly opposite Washington circle, at 11 a. m. on Wednesday and Friday of this week and on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of next week.

The conferences on child welfare work will be at 11 a. m. tomorrow, Wednesday and Friday of this week and every day except Saturday of next week at the same hour.

At these conferences the methods used in the care of babies and children from a period prior to birth up to the age of six years in American institutions will be shown. The work is practically a continuation of that done under the auspices of the Federal Children's Bureau at the Panama-Pacific Exposition and will be given by the doctors of the Washington Diet Kitchen staff.

Patents loaned by the town and country nursing service of the American Red Cross and the National Society for the Study and Prevention of Infant Mortality will be used in demonstrating the methods resorted to in the rural districts and small towns for the care of babies and children.

Pupils Spell All Words In President's Message

NEW PROVIDENCE, Iowa, Dec. 27.—President Wilson's message to Congress contains no letters for Iowa school children, as intended by the case which the students spelled all the hard words in his message in a recent spelling bee here. New Providence and Union were the schools engaged in the spelling bee.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children In Use For Over 30 Years Always bears the signature of J. C. Watson

Concert Today

U. S. Marine Band Orchestra at U. S. Marine Barracks, at 2:30 p. m. WILLIAM H. SANTELMANN, Leader.

March, "Through War to Victory." Von Blon Overture, "The Beautiful Galatea." Suppe (a) "The Baker's Boy and the Chimney Sweep." (b) "Call Around Again." Herbert Excerpts from "Rigoletto." Verdi Waltz, "Spring, Beautiful Spring." Lincke Idyl, "The Glow-Worm." Lincke Grand March, "Coronation." Meyerbeer Marine's Hymn, "The Halls of Montezuma."

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Central Citizens to Meet.

The Central Citizens' Association will hold a meeting this evening at 7:30 o'clock at the North Capitol Savings Bank, 731 North Capitol street.

For Sprains, Lamé Muscles

Absorbine, Jr., brings quick relief. Keep it always at hand for instant use. Athletes use Absorbine, Jr., for the muscle that has been strained, for the cut or laceration that runs a chance of infection; for the abrasion that pains and the limbs that are stiff and lame from over-exertion.

Walter Johnson, the famous pitcher of the Washington Americans, says: "Absorbine, Jr., is a first-class liniment and rub-down for tired muscles. I have used it myself to advantage, and can heartily recommend it to ball players everywhere."

Absorbine, Jr., is a concentrated antiseptic liniment—only a few drops required in an application. It is safe and pleasant to use—leaves no greasy residue. Sold by most druggists, \$1.00 and \$2.00 a bottle, or postpaid. Liberal trial bottle for 10c in stamps.

W. F. YOUNG, P. D. F., 48 Temple st., Springfield, Mass.—Advt.

ASK DINERS FOR "BIT" FOR BELGIANS RELIEF

Appeal Was Sanctioned by Sir Charles Wakefield, Lord Mayor of London.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—Virtually every Christmas dinner table in the British Isles today contained an envelope with a printed request that the diners deposit a "bit" for the relief of Belgium's millions of destitute.

The dinners were distributed by volunteer workers to hotels, restaurants, and private houses.

The appeal was sanctioned by Sir Charles Wakefield, lord mayor of London. "I am most anxious," he said, "that every one of us who is enjoying a plentiful fare will spare a trifle to provide bread for the destitute Belgians, who, through no fault of their own, are spending a dark Christmas day."

Do You Believe in Preparedness?

BRING your advertising writers out of the trenches. SEND them right up to the firing line. ARM them with liberal contracts for space in The Sunday Evening Times. THEIR victories will be complete—your Monday business a success!

The Sunday Evening Times

Alone in the Afternoon Field

Circulates in More Than 40,000 Homes in Washington